Ocean Thermal Plant in Lakshadweep Island

602. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to set up an Ocean Thermal Plant in Lakshadweep Islands.

(b) if so, the time by when it is likely to start functioning; and

(c) what is the amount of the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A detailed Feasibility Report for setting up of a 1 M. W. OTEC Plant at Lakshadweep was commissioned through M/s. Metallurgical & Engineering Consultants Ltd., Ranchi, a Public Sector consultancy firm. The estimated capital cost was considered too high even for a Pilot Plant. Different alternatives are, therefore, being examined to reduce the initial cost to enable a final decision in the matter.

(c) The Seventh Plan allocation is Rs. 3 crores.

Power theft cases in the Capital

603. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 182 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st July, 1986 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to declare theft of power a cognisable offence keeping in view the growing incidence of power theft cases in the capital; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) Necessary amendment to Indian Electricity Act, 1910 has already been made making theft of energy a cognizable offence. These provisions are also applicable to the Union territory of Delhi.

Power utilized by Lawrence Road Division

604. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how much power has been supplied by DESU to the Lawrence Road Division of Delhi during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) how much power was used by Lawrence Road Division for Street Lights etc. and for its office use during the same period; and

(c) what is the quantity of power for which bills have been issued to the consumers during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Present position of Salal and Dulhasti projects

605. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Hydro-electric projects, being constructed by Union Government in J & K State;

(b) what is the latest position regarding Salal and Dulhasti projects;

(c) whether the transmission lines have been constructed from Salal to Srinagar and Jammu; and

(d) when the Uri project is being taken in hand and what is the progress so far made in respect of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Two Hydro-electric Projects namely, Salal (3x115 MW) and Dulhasti (3x130 MW) in J&K, are presently under execution in the Central Sector through the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC).

(b) and (c) All the major works of the Salal Project are in an advanced stage of completion and the project is scheduled to be commissioned in March, 1987. At the Dulhasti HE Project infrastructural works are in progress.

The two transmission lines from Salal to Jammu and to Udhampur, included under the scope of the transmission system associated with the Salal Project, have been completed.

(d) The Uri Hydro-electric Project has been techno-economically approved by the Central Electricity Authority and is proposed to be executed in the Central Sector.

Working of Barkakana Colliery

606. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether four shovels working in Barkakana Colliery (C.C.L.) have been damaged badly causing loss of several crores; and

(b) if so, whether responsibility has been fixed on the persons whose neglect has resulted in this mishap and what steps are being taken to see that this type of mistake is not repeated?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. It is a fact that due to heavy incessant rainfall on 6 July 1986, four shovels working at Bhurkunda colliery of Barkakana area of Central Coalfields Limited were damaged resulting in some loss. A High Powered Enquiry Committee constituted immediately after the incident had found that there was some lapse on the part of two officers. These two officers have been warned. Steps are being taken to ensure that such mishaps do not occur in future.

Coal from Bokaro Colliery

607. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal supplied by the Bokaro colliery under Central Coalfields Limited to Kargali washery has been shown in excess by manipulating weighment cards issued by the washery in the years 1983-84, 1984-85, 1985-86 upto the month of June;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what is the quantity of coal shown above the actual supplies and how much money is involved in this regard and what steps are being taken to check this malpractice;

(c) whether Government propose to hand over the matter to CBI; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d) There is no discrepancy in the coal despatched from Bokaro Colliery and received at the Kargali Washery. However, surprise checks conducted by the colliery management revealed some overwritings in the counterfoils of the weighments received from the washery for the billing purpose which resulted in inflated wage bill